

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **February 20, 2019**

**Members Present:** Cynthia DeAngelis, Karen Mathiasen, Michael Rademacher, Darcy, Devney, Maureen St. Hilaire, Paul Raia

**Members Absent:** Kerrie Fallon, Liza Molina, Paul Czech

**Others Present:** Laura Kiesel, Disability Advocate  
Paul Kuhn, Disability Advocate  
Ellen Leigh, Disability Advocate  
Jack Jones, ADA Coordinator  
Members of the Diversity Task Group

#### **Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2018 and January 16, 2019:**

The Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2018 and January 16, 2019 were tabled until the March 2019 Commission Meeting.

#### **Parking Concerns:**

Laura Kiesel said that having no on street overnight parking has a greater impact on disabled and low income residents. Laura said that the Diversity Task Group has agreed to support a Warrant Article 80 that is a non-binding resolution that would allow overnight on street parking for low income and disabled residents who don't have access to off-street parking at their residence. Laura said however that only the Select Board is able to change the ban on the overnight parking policy. Laura said that she has also met with the Planning Department and the Parking Implementation Committee both of which support her Warrant Article. Laura wants the parking ban to be revised and for some reasonable accommodations be made. Laura said that when applying for an on street parking space a person should not have to explain their disability at a Select Board Meeting while being videotaped.

#### **Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan:**

Jack Jones said that a self-evaluation is an assessment of a public entity's programs, services, and activities; facilities; and current policies, practices and procedures. Jack said that the self-evaluation identifies and corrects barriers to access that are inconsistent with its title 2 requirements. Jack said that the Transition Plan is a plan on how to fund corrective actions and provides a time line for making these corrections. Jack said that the Town received a grant of \$40,000 from the Massachusetts Office on Disability with approximately \$34,600 of additional funds added to complete the self- evaluation. Jack said at the January 2019 Meeting that two consultants responded to the RFP with the winning consultant being the Institute for Human Centered Design.

#### **Marijuana Educational Event:**

Town Council and the Town Manager said that this event could be sponsored if other dispensaries were able to co-sponsor and participate in the event to prevent the appearance

that the Town is partial only to the local dispensary Paul Czech has wanted to promote this event in order to provide education about marijuana and not to necessarily promote the use of marijuana. Politically the Commission agreed that it would not be wise to support this event even though the Commission agrees with the educational component of the event. Maureen St. Hilaire made a motion for the Commission not to sponsor this educational marijuana event. Michael Rademacher seconded Maureen's motion. The Commission voted not to sponsor the event with one abstention that was Darcy Devney.

**Green Line Extension:**

Jack Jones said that a representative from MassDOT contact himself about MassDOT's desire to keep local Commission's on Disability and other groups up to date on road and bridge closures. Jack said that information will be provided on a regular basis from MassDOT about these closures.

**Diversity Manager's Position:**

Jack Jones said that he is planning to retire after 44 years with the Town at sometime in late June or early summer. Jack said that the Town intends to create a position of Diversity Manager that will include the responsibilities of the ADA Coordinator and also the responsibilities of the Coordinator of the Town's Rainbow Coalition.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 P.M.